# **The Front Door Agency**

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## **Celebrating Thirty Years of Serving the Community**

As we celebrate our 30th Anniversary this year, we look to you-our generous



supporters—with deep gratitude. It's because of you that we've been able to impact the lives of over 26,000 families (more than 75,000 adults and children) over three decades. Thank you for making a difference!

On May 19th we marked our 30-year milestone with a special event at the Crowne Plaza attended by 200 guests. Thank you to longtime generous supporters and event sponsors, Law Warehouse and Lovering Volvo.

The event was also an opportunity to honor our founder, the Rev. Robert "Odie" Odierna on his retirementboth from active ministry at Church of the Good Shepherd and from our Board—after 30 years of very passionate involvement.

It was Pastor Odie's vision that led to the founding in 1987 of Nashua Pastoral Care Center (now the Front Door Agency). "Our Church members had an open door policy to serve whoever came to us for help," says Odie, adding that it was clear almost from the start that the Church needed to engage the larger community.

#### A Family Transformed

Cecelia Ulibarri, a graduate of our Transitional Housing Program who now runs her own Nashua non-profit, told guests at the celebration, "I wouldn't be where I am today without Front Door clients. Recognizing this the support I received from this Agency," She added that as a single parent she is still facing the challenge of financing college for her two sons.





Rev. Dr. Robert "Odie" Odierna **Agency Founder** 

#### **Odie Scholarship Fund**

Cecelia's challenge to give her children greater educational opportunities is one faced by many current and former ongoing need, Pastor Odie and his wife Heidi kicked off the Odie Scholarship Fund at the event with a personal gift of \$10,000.

The Fund, which has already raised nearly \$100,000, will provide children served through our programs with opportunities for enrichment programs and higher education. We invite you to learn more at www.tinyurl.com/fda30yrs.

Interested in learning more about what we do? Join us for an informal Open House on Wednesday, July 19 at noon. RSVP to npaige@frontdooragency.org or call us at (603) 886-2866.

## One Family's Story: From Housing Crisis to Stability

Sometimes all it takes is one unforeseen event to upset a family's financial stability and leave them on the verge of homelessness. In May, Karen and Mark came to us with their two children. Their family had been sharing a house with a roommate but when the roommate passed away unexpectedly, they were forced out by her family who inherited the property.

All of this happened suddenly and didn't allow them time to save money for a security deposit or first month's rent on a new place.

The Front Door Agency was able to work with Karen and Mark to give them a security deposit loan with favorable repayment terms. As a result, this working family was able to avoid homelessness.



#### **Recent Grants Enable us to Achieve our Mission**

Rotary Club of Nashua · Rotary Club of Nashua West · Ella F. Anderson Trust · Kronos · Home Depot The Madelaine G. Von Weber Trust · Santander Bank · TD Charitable Foundation · Wells Fargo Foundation

#### **Budget Buddies Takes Financial Literacy Beyond the Basics**

Congratulations to 12 women from our Transitional Housing Program who graduated in May from a unique program called Budget Buddies.

Over the past six months the women have been paired with female mentors from the community to learn money management skills designed to help them on the path to economic selfsufficiency.

For many years, our Agency has offered a successful Financial Literacy

Program which provides the basics in five short sessions. Budget Buddies, a Lowell-based program, delves deeper into personal finances and helps lowincome women to implement a budget and plan for the future.

"When we were approached by cofounders Anita Saville and Kathy Brough from Budget Buddies, we knew it would be a perfect next step for our women, says CEO Maryse Wirbal. "We've already seen many of them grow in self-confidence."



We Need You! Interested in becoming a Budget Buddies mentor for our program starting this fall? Find out more on www.budgetbuddies.org.

#### **Area Chefs Join Together to Support Agency**

Thanks to all who participated in our 29th Annual Gourmet Festival & Auction in March. It was a spectacular evening of giving to support the women and children in our Transitional Housing program and families struggling to avoid homelessness. With your support, this signature event raised a remarkable \$170,000.

"We've been very fortunate to enjoy continued success with our Gourmet event," says Jean Perry, Director of Development together of many generous supporters — from our major sponsor this year, RBC Wealth Management, to



our higher level "Caring" sponsors including Eastern Bank, Right Networks, J. Lawrence Hall, UBS Financial, Stanley Elevator and many others."

Thank you to our partners, participating restaurants, area and Special Events. "It's a coming businesses and generous guests! Be sure to mark your calendar for next year's Gourmet on March 25, 2018.

#### **Thank You, Board Members**

We would like to extend special thanks to outgoing board members Beth Needham and Amy LaBelle who have worked tirelessly for our mission. We will miss them!

Our heartfelt thanks, too, to Jed Anderson for his outstanding leadership as board president this past year. He's shown here (at right) with new board president Bob Kennedy.



## **Year-Long Partners: Making Our Mission Possible**

### In the Spotlight: Southern NH Health

The Front Door Agency is fortunate to have continued strong support from corporate partners, including Southern New Hampshire Health. We wish to congratulate SNHH on 125 years of serving the health needs of Greater Nashua! With a 188-bed hospital in the heart of downtown Nashua and a medical staff of over 500 primary and specialty care providers, SNHH is committed to

improving and maintaining the health and well-being of individuals in our region. You can learn more about their services, classes and programs at snhhealth.org



**Platinum** BAE **Silver** 

**Triangle Credit Union** 

**Bronze** 

Bellwether Cityside Management **Lowell Five** So. NH Health Media The Telegraph

Community **United Way of Greater** 

Nashua

#### **What Will Be Your Legacy?**

With advance planning, you can have a big impact on people in need. To learn more about how to make a gift through your will or life insurance plan, please contact Jean Perry at (603) 886-2866. www.frontdooragency.org